

Fort Polk is facing a severe shortage of training land. The shortage has been recognized by the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army and we have been authorized to begin the process of purchasing more land, up to a total of 100,000 acres. The land we would like to purchase would ideally be large parcels next to property we already own. Our program is different than many other government projects because we will be purchasing from willing sellers only, and not using eminent domain to force owners to sell.

In the next few months, the necessary environmental and real estate studies will be conducted to determine which property would provide the best training for our Soldiers.

The Army would like to begin training on the newly purchased property in late 2011.

## For additional information:

- Please call (337) 531-9125 or
- email polk.landpurchase@us.army.mil or
- visit our website at www.jrtc-polk.army.mil

## **Program Guidelines**

- Focus on WILLING SELLERS
- Army Corps of Engineers performs real estate functions
  - Corps must request permission to enter land
  - Corps will prepare Real Estate Planning Report
  - Corps will work with qualified appraisers to determine Fair Market Value
  - Negotiations between buyer & seller like any real estate transaction
- Up to 100,000 acres is approved for purchase
- Notice of Intent (NOI) Published and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies begin March 2009
  - NOI is scheduled to be printed in the Federal Register on March 16
  - Environmental scoping meetings will be held in April
- No additional use of US Forest Service property
- Program will likely extend for several years beyond date of first purchase
- All land will be used for training purposes
- Fort Polk maintains good environmental stewardship of land and resources
- Updated information will be available on the Polk Land Purchase website



